

ON THE REVIEWER'S TABLE

"The Brentons."

By Anna Chapin Ray. Little, Brown and Company, of Boston. \$1.25 net.

Miss Ray has written an unusual book because of a remarkably able study in personalities which distinguishes it. The scene of action is transferred from the community of a small New England village to a university town, where the people of Saint Peter's congregation, to whom Scott Brenton preaches, have lived in their homes since King George the Third's day, and, according to Mrs. Brenton, were "born ready-made with a whole set of prejudices" which, try as they may, she cannot get past.

To understand the book, Scott Brenton's environment must be considered. His father, a clerk in a village store, died when his son was a few days old. Mrs. Brenton was descended from a long line of Puritan stock, to whose memory she clung with passionate fervor. She had one great devotion in her life, her devotion to her son, one great object, to educate him so that he might assume the mantle of his clerical grandparents when he reached the pulpit. The most popular of the young men, who were pinched and saved and required the boy to pinch and save too.

He had a hard time consequently during his college career. His disadvantage, indeed, weighed so heavily upon him that he might have never done it. To his measure, had it not been for an old professor who, by penetrating the shell into which Scott Brenton withdrew himself, and having sympathized with him because of the handicap under which he labored, called to the shy student's aid. Reed Ophylke, one of the most popular of young university men, strong enough to steel his own way and take upon his broad shoulders the responsibility of a nature which was moved by a faithless abounding and direct than his.

The first great mistake which Scott Brenton made was his giving up his own convictions of the course in life toward which the bent of his nature inclined him—that of a chemist—for the ministry, because he felt he could not break his mother's heart by deserting the home she had cherished for years. Out of the Slough of Despond into which he fell over the effort to reconcile his disappointment and her desires, he was lifted by the strong influence of Reed Ophylke. Scott Brenton committed a second great wrong against himself. He was married by a young girl who was incapable of loving him or of helping him in any way. The two had known each other from childhood. Always Reed Ophylke had been the same, Cotto Harrison at six, Gatta at eighteen, and Kathryn after her husband received his appointment as pastor of Saint Peter's. Absolutely self-centered, she proved a stretched example of a housemistress, a wife and a mother. Against the university background her erudition and ignorance stand out jarringly. Her husband has no influence with her. The little son that might have brought the two together, pined from his birth, faded out of life. Then the wife and the husband go separate ways.

There are some charming people among the circle of parishioners drawn around Scott Brenton in the university town where Saint Peter's is situated. Dr. Kelbridge and his daughter Olive, who is a chemist, and many others stand for human nature at its best. And among them and dominating them all is Reed Ophylke, stretched on a bed of helplessness, but brave and loyal, holding Scott Brenton to his standards, concerning his ideas, holding him back when he makes slipshod of his life and misleading others who had come to have confidence in his doctrine.

The book is full of overflowing of the beauty of service in behalf of humanity, of loyalty to friends, or of courage in the face of its character analysis is marvelous. It also teaches the things that are best worth doing and hoping for in life: "A man's duty, to play out the game bravely, and, out of loyalty to a all-wise Creator, not to lose touch with the present while he is trying to see too many moves ahead." The remote parts of life, so long as they remained remote, would take care of themselves. And, in the same way, the problems of after-life, its meanings, could be left unsolved, if not understood, until the time came when a nearer view could take them in. Properly lived, life was too busy to admit of many questions, anyway. For the man knocked down and out, whether by spiritual doubt or black powder, he would be in the dust of his emotions, or stiffen himself ready for his effort."

"The Wrong Woman."

By Charles D. Stewart. Houghton, Mifflin and Company, of Boston. \$1.25 net.

All phases, all people, furnish materials out of which the modern American novelist weaves his romances. A new novel by Charles D. Stewart, author of "The Captive Blacksmith" and "Partners of Providence," has for a background the

Texan sheep country, with which its author is intimately acquainted.

The heroine is a young teacher, who is traveling horseback from one point to another in the San Antonio ranch country of Texas. Her saddle horse, her horse running away, she gets lost on the prairie, takes refuge in a sheep herder's shack and meets a young Texan of the better class, who is caring for a flock of sheep belonging to a friend, during the absence of the herder. The girl enjoys her experience and the novelty of life on the sheep ranch. Incidentally she proves very helpful to the amateur ranchman and learns a good deal, practically, about the responsibilities and anxieties of a ranch life. She sets a spring, on a Texas ranch. She sets a spring insight into the types of sheep motherhood and is astonished to find that sheep are very much like human beings in their acceptance and discharge of duty.

The description of the Texas prairie, with its many varieties of flowers, its wide level spaces, its bright, sunny days and the call of its coyotes gives the book a very distinctive atmosphere. There is a clever presentation of the graduation of a society in a small Texas town, including the description of a bachelor menage and the manner in which a Texan manages an ox team by word of mouth and energetic use of his whip. The ox driver is a good horse man, who knows his feminine gentles home, from the little girl, who brings pies sent the lone masculine cook of flapjacks by her mother, to the leaders of sewing and literary societies, whose decision makes on-mars sister woman. Sciences promulgated against the younger faculty, which lingers in the prairie to bear company to the caring for sheep against his will and to give sorely needed help in return for kindly hospitality, is reversed by the power of the ox driver's influence.

For the girl and the amateur ranchman become such good friends during their comradeship in herding sheep and taking meals on the bare earth, with a centre tuft of wild flowers for a post, that they continue their partnership for the rest of the book. The judicious philosopher of the Texan man, the young couple are most cordially received when the groom brings his bride in his buggy from the sheep-shack, by way of the courthouse, the magistrate's and the parsonage, to his home in the little town where the woman who represent society.

The story is clever in description, character sketching and arrangement of scenes and incident. It is thoroughly readable and companionable by virtue of its originality and unpretentiousness.

"Peter Huff and the Double Four."

By E. Phillips Oppenheim. Little, Brown and Company, of Boston. \$1.25 net.

Probably there is no writer of fiction in the world of to-day, who, in his special line, is more popular and more popularly known, than E. Phillips Oppenheim. "The Double Four" is the name of a famous French organization that at first was well-known in the annals of criminology, and more than once entered the scene in rural England, where the police men who put themselves beyond the pale of the law by what they did. Peter Huff, a member of "The Double Four," finds the risk of its demands too great and after a half-breath escape in the beam, he virtually resigns from the activities to which he had been pledged and goes into business on his own account. Later he is called back to the "Double Four," which by this time has become a great international power in diplomacy.

Through a series of stories, which makes up the book, "The Double Four" is the woman Peter Huff is in love with, and the woman who is always in love with Peter Huff, always his efficient ally and finally his wife.

The scene of most of the episodes with which Mr. Oppenheim thrills the imagination of his readers is in England. There is a dramatic hour in the Paris bed room of an aristocratic woman, who bequeaths the power she has held over the "Double Four" to Peter Huff, who is afterward known as the Baron de Grest, with a wonderful London house and an accomplished, practical rank and station to make good his promises.

An American adventure adds interest and spice to the book for readers on this side of the water. Peter Huff and his enemy race each other across the Atlantic and try conclusions in a triumph for Peter and one more defeat for Von Herne.

Many notable diplomatic entanglements enter into the adventures, in which Peter is always the ruling figure; many famous factors in finance and politics are depicted under a characterization, which conveys a keen identity, but is a revelation as to personality.

The book stories cover a wide range in interest and incident, but the connected between them is close and unbroken. The novel is thoroughly typical of a product of Mrs. Oppenheim's well-known skill in describing mystery factors that affect the relations between the great powers of Europe, and the weaving of these factors into romances that are as brilliant as they are entertaining.

"The Cavalier Poets."

By Carl Houghday. The Neale Publishing Company, of New York and Washington. \$2.50.

For the man who desires to know such things as Herrick, Quarles, Herbert, Carew, Lovelace, Greville, Vaughan, Stanley, Habsington, Suckling, Davenant, Marvell, Crashaw and other singers who came into the world of literature after the coldly classical day of Dryden and Pope, and reached their culmination in Burns, Byron and Shelley, Carl Houghday's comprehensive volume, entering into the life and work of each of the "Cavalier Poets," is a fascinating revelation as well as a delight.

The author's purpose, as announced by himself, "It is my hope that the sweetness, daintiness and chivalry, the artistic temperament of the poets of whom I write may be transmitted to some degree to the readers of this volume," is clearly exemplified in his work. Formerly associated in work with the University of Virginia, Mr. Houghday is now acting head of the department of English literature, Vanderbilt University, Tenn.

In a single volume he has presented that famous group who wrote so deli-

cately and gallantly during Cavalier days, the spirit of whose writings has so marked an influence on English and American poets of to-day. The author not only tells of the brave deeds of these Cavaliers, their love affairs and of their poetic ideals, but he also tells of the gay life of the day, of the customs and of the scenes in rural England and in boisterous London of the early seventeenth century. The biographical sketches of the more important Cavaliers are delightfully entertaining, sympathetic and instructive. Such old favorites as "I could not love thee, dear, so much, loved I not love more," and "Why so pale and wan, fond lover?" come to us with renewed force because of the insight that this book gives into the life of brave, chivalrous, broken-hearted Lovelace, of that wild prodigal, but lovable and brilliant son of the Duke of Buckingham, the young country parson, drinking the wine of life deeply and gladly, in the glowing fields of Devonshire or in London. Whether telling of Dr. John Donne, the founder of the movement, or of pious, romantic George Herbert, or of Tom Carew, gallant, gracious, unassuming, little, knowing and caring less that his poems were the connecting link between Jonson and Prior, or of the saintly priest and enraptured singer, Crashaw, Mr. Houghday enters into the life and work of each in a way that fascinates as well as informs.

"The Garden of the Sun."

By Captain T. J. Powers, U. S. A. Small, Maynard & Co., of Boston. \$1.25 net.

The Philippines and the American army post there form a background for a highly colored and spiced bit of literature by Captain Powers. The Philippines give a flavor of Orientalism that

is attractive. The trials and temptations of army life there are written about illuminatingly, and an expedition into the interior against Moro pirates reveals the kind of foes against which the spirit of American patriotism is constantly tried.

Among the social life of the army post the usual characters come into being. There are the colonel and the colonel's wife—a bluff, kind-hearted soldier, she a motherly woman, who his with great appropriateness into her place. There is the woman who has a bad husband whom she doesn't love. Consequently she makes mischief between the two, who is too brave to tell the truth at her expense, and his sweetheart, who believes him false.

But after a while the mischief-maker repents. She confesses her wrong and leaves the Philippines to begin life again in America with her reformed spouse. "Then everybody is really happier, and the lovers are reconciled."

A pretty little army idyl. Nothing pretentious or extraordinary about it. But a description of life as it is lived by a part of the American people in one of the most restful of very much interested.

"Great Pictures as Moral Teachers."

By Henry E. Jackson. The John C. Winston Company, of Philadelphia. \$1.50.

This book has twenty reproductions of photographs from originals of paintings and sculpture, each accompanied by an interpretation, also an introduction on the use of pictures in teaching. Each of the pictures selected impresses some great moral principle in such a way that it should wield a strong power for good. Each picture is the subject of an interpretation, not only of deep interest to the thoughtful man or woman, but it is also instructive in showing the moral point of view in looking at works of art.

The subjects are treated in a manner to hold the attention not only of artistic people and those particularly interested in religious matters, but also of the general reader.

Richard Pryce and His Book.

Early in February Houghton, Mifflin & Co. are to bring out a novel of which great things are prophesied. The novel is called "Christopher," and its author is Richard Pryce, hitherto unknown to American readers of fiction.

Mr. Pryce was born in Boulogne in May of 1864, of English parents, his father being a colonel in the English army and his mother the daughter of General Christopher Hamilton.

Young Pryce spent much of his childhood abroad after the death of his father, but returned to England to be educated at Lexington College. The routine of the public school had small attraction for him, compared to the more absorbing study which already had put forth rival claims. For he began early to write, and found ready acceptance for his efforts in the popular magazines. In 1884 he published his first book, written at the age of nineteen, a touching and graceful story of French peasant life. Since that time he has devoted himself entirely to his writing, and his books have gained constantly in strength and literary refinement. He

does most of his work in London.

The London Athenaeum says of him: "Mr. Pryce's work recalls the style of Octave Feuillet by its clearness, conciseness and brilliancy of touch. He is realistic in the true sense, and has steeped himself in the subtle things of London, which he reproduces rather than describes. The scene of some of his novels is laid in Montgomeryshire, near the Welsh border, which was his father's country. As a novelist, Mr. Pryce has a remarkable gift of sympathetic intuition in the delineation of every varying type and grade of feminine character, from the elderly gentlewoman to the London 'slaves'; and also a ready sensibility which marks him as a humorist of a high order. Besides his novels, he has written several successful plays, one of which, 'Op o' Me Thump,' was played in this country by Miss Maude Adams."

"Under Western Eyes."

By Joseph Conrad. Harper and Bros., of New York.

Joseph Conrad's novel is the drama of a man's conscience done with extraordinary power.

The people of the story are Russian for the most part, and the title, "Under Western Eyes," expresses the fact that the revelations of temperament which the tale involves must seem very strange to the people of Western lands. Joseph Conrad, who is himself a native of Russia, thoroughly understands the Russian nature—its essential humanity, its depths of contradiction, and its spiritual force.

The central figure is a young student at the University of St. Petersburg, named Razumov. He is of a reserved nature and has little in common with most of his fellows, but on account of his philosophical views he is thought to have revolutionary sympathies. As a matter of fact, his tendencies are all in the opposite direction. He is really the illegitimate son of a powerful nobleman, Prince K—, who, although he never explicitly acknowledges the relation, in an indirect way promises him advancement just as Razumov's hopes are becoming definite, a much hated minister of state is assassinated. Return-

ing from his interview with the prince, he finds that the assassin, Haldin, a fellow-student, has taken refuge in his rooms. The situation is intolerable, for Razumov knows that the least suspicion of complicity will ruin him. He hates Haldin for his utter trustfulness, his continual talk of high purposes. He is in an agony of mind, while the assassin himself, borne up by a great moral conviction, can sleep peacefully. The upshot is that, in preparation of arranging for an escape, he betrays Haldin to the police. Here Razumov himself comes under suspicion, and he is subjected to a very subtle sort of third-degree treatment.

After a period of observation, the authorities decide that he is a fit instrument for their purposes and send him to Geneva as a police spy. Here he meets and in spite of himself falls in love with Haldin's sister. Confession trembles upon his lips at all times. With superhuman self-control he seems to stand apart and criticize each of his own utterances. Every act is a conscious effort of will. Joseph Conrad portrays this waking nightmare with extraordinary power, yet the human note is felt in it all.

"Under Western Eyes" is a novel in which a really big theme is handled by a writer of genius.

BOOK NOTES.

First Chapters of "Stella Maris."

The first chapters of W. J. Locke's new novel, "Stella Maris," appear in the January Century. The heroine is an English invalid girl, who from her couch looking out upon the sea, rules her environment with the sceptre of fancy and spirit. The opening shows Mr. Locke in his firm hold of human motives, which will later be deepened by the evolution of strong situations. The full-page picture of the heroine is beautifully portrayed on her invalid's throne.

"Providence in Colonial Times."

Houghton Mifflin Company will publish in January a picturesque history of "Providence in Colonial Times," by Miss Gertrude S. Kimball, in a Riverside edition, limited to 500 numbered copies. The book has an introduction by J. Franklin Jameson, LL. D., and is fully illustrated from rare contemporary sources. Miss Kimball is the author of "Colonial Governors of Rhode Island."

Mrs. Wiggin in Demand.

Kate Douglas Wiggin responded to "Literature" at the dedication dinner of the new Studio Club in New York last week. The popular author of "Mother Carey's Chickens" and "Rebecca" is in much demand this winter. The principal educators and ministers of Brooklyn recently gave her a dinner of seventy-five covers. She was entertained at luncheon by the Acorn Club of Philadelphia on January 12, as well as by the Chiropean Club of Brooklyn on the 17th; and is to be by the Castle School Club on the 24d.

Best Sellers in England.

It is reported from across the water that among the six best selling books in England during last November were two by American authors—"The Long Roll," by Mary Johnston,

and "Queed," by Henry Sydney Hart.

Margaret Cameron's Ideas.

Margaret Cameron, author of the travel novels, "The Involuntary Chaparron" and "The Pretender Person," has talked and written our manufacturers and letting slip in South America. At the recent American Trade Conference at Buenos Aires a merchant pointed out that in the last ten years Argentina's imports have increased 300 per cent, but that Europe's exports to the United States, has benefited. He has brought home to us, by means of statistics, the same facts which Margaret Cameron has emphasized in fiction. "The Involuntary Chaparron" was written after an extended stay in South America and reveals a love story as well as trade conditions.

SPECIAL LITERARY NOTES.

Houghton Mifflin Co. published during last week the first of their books for the new year as follows: "The Wrong Woman," a romance of the Texas sheep country, by Charles D. Stewart; "The Factory," a compact study of the factory system, by Jonathan Thayer Lincoln, author of "The City of the Dinner-Pail"; "Essentials of Poetry," by William Allan Neilson, professor of English at Harvard University; a new revised edition of Herman Hagedorn's volume of poems, "A Troop of the Guard"; "The Status of the Teacher," by Arthur C. Perry, Jr., in the Riverside Educational Monograph Series.

The up-hill fight which has been going on in New Jersey during the past six years for the establishment of a women's reformatory presents a striking parallel to the reformatory incident in Henry Sydney Hart's recent novel, "Queed." Seldom does fact so closely follow action.

The French artist, Villar, when recently in this country, said of Winslow Homer, whose "Life and Works," by William H. Downes, has just been published by Houghton Mifflin Company: "I have seen his pictures, and he seems to me the greatest artist, whose work I know, that America has produced. The greatest—in spite of his epoch which wasn't the most favorable to art. He was, to my mind, the greatest American painter in spite of Whistler and Sargent. Sargent is never himself—sometimes he is Carolus-Luran, sometimes somebody else. He hasn't the sincerity of Homer. Whistler, well, Whistler was always himself, but eccentric."

Jonathan Thayer Lincoln, who is a well-known mill owner of Fall River, Mass., and the author of "The City of the Dinner-Pail," has just published, through Houghton Mifflin Company, a new book on "The Factory." In the space of about 100 pages, Mr. Lincoln makes a study of the history of the factory system, beginning with its rise out of the old feudalistic conditions of labor, through the industrial revolution, down to the present time, with its many complex tendencies, fraught with hope and danger for the future. Mr. Lincoln has lately been made a lecturer on industrial matters in the Amos Tuck School of Dartmouth College.

Second Week of the Great Clean Sweep Sale OF HIGH GRADE FURNITURE

This is not a sale merely to draw people, but is a bona-fide reduction of prices on our ENTIRE STOCK. Those who have taken advantage of the opportunity in the past know of the sterling values which are offered.

Every piece of Furniture in the sale is as good as new—right from our regular stock. None are shopworn, or in any other way damaged. It is simply a matter of necessity to clear space for new, in-coming stock, and the only way in which we can do so is to dispose of the furniture which is now on our floors.

If you have not attended this "Clean Sweep" sale during the past week, don't fail to do so this coming week. Glance at the following list—these are only a few of our special offers.

REMEMBER, YOUR CREDIT is GOOD. YOU CAN MAKE THE TIME and the AMOUNT of YOUR PAYMENTS to SUIT YOUR CONVENIENCE

Dining Room Specials

Buffet (golden oak); former price \$22.00, now.....	\$16.50
Buffet (golden oak); former price \$28.00, now.....	\$21.00
Buffet (golden oak); former price \$35.00, now.....	\$26.25
Buffet (golden oak); former price \$45.00, now.....	\$33.75
Buffet (golden oak); former price \$50.00, now.....	\$37.50
Buffet (golden oak); former price \$65.00, now.....	\$48.75
Buffet (golden oak); former price \$75.00, now.....	\$56.25
China Closets; former price \$18.00, now.....	\$13.50
China Closets; former price \$22.00, now.....	\$15.50
China Closets; former price \$30.00, now.....	\$22.50
China Closets; former price \$40.00, now.....	\$30.00
Dining Tables (6-foot); former price \$7.00, now.....	\$4.95
Dining Tables (6-foot); pedestal style; former price \$12.00, now.....	\$9.00
Dining Tables (6-foot); pedestal style; former price \$18.00, now.....	\$13.50
Dining Tables (6-foot); pedestal style; former price \$25.00, now.....	\$18.75
Dining Tables (6-foot); pedestal style; former price \$35.00, now.....	\$26.25
Chairs, former price \$1.25, now.....	95c
Chairs, former price \$2.00, now.....	\$1.50
Chairs, former price \$3.00, now.....	\$2.25
Chairs, former price \$4.00, now.....	\$3.00
Chairs, former price \$5.00, now.....	\$3.75

Parlor Specials

Three-Piece Suit, former price \$25.00, now.....	\$18.75
Three-Piece Suit, former price \$35.00, now.....	\$26.25
Three-Piece Suit, former price \$50.00, now.....	\$37.50
Three-Piece Suit, former price \$75.00, now.....	\$56.25
Three-Piece Suit, former price \$100.00, now.....	\$75.00
Five-Piece Suit, former price \$35.00, now.....	\$26.25
Five-Piece Suit, former price \$45.00, now.....	\$33.75
Five-Piece Suit, former price \$65.00, now.....	\$48.75
Five-Piece Suit, former price \$100.00, now.....	\$75.00
Five-Piece Suit, former price \$150.00, now.....	\$112.50

Kitchen Specials

Boone Kitchen Cabinet, former price \$16.00, now.....	\$12.00
Boone Kitchen Cabinet, former price \$22.00, now.....	\$15.50
Boone Kitchen Cabinet, former price \$28.00, now.....	\$21.00
Boone Kitchen Cabinet, former price \$35.00, now.....	\$26.25
Boone Kitchen Cabinet, former price \$40.00, now.....	\$30.00

Bed Room Specials

Golden Oak Suit, former price \$25.00, now.....	\$18.75
Golden Oak Suit, former price \$35.00, now.....	\$26.25
Golden Oak Suit, former price \$50.00, now.....	\$37.50
Golden Oak Suit, former price \$75.00, now.....	\$56.25
Mahogany Suit, former price \$85.00, now.....	\$63.75
Mahogany Suit, former price \$100.00, now.....	\$112.50
Dressers (odd pieces), golden oak; former price \$10.00, now.....	\$7.50
Dressers (odd pieces), golden oak; former price \$15.00, now.....	\$11.25
Dressers (odd pieces), golden oak; former price \$18.00, now.....	\$13.50
Dressers (odd pieces), golden oak; former price \$25.00, now.....	\$18.75
Dressers (odd pieces), golden oak; former price \$30.00, now.....	\$22.50
Beds, white enamel (iron), full size; former price \$4.00, now.....	\$1.98
Beds, white enamel (iron), full size; former price \$5.00, now.....	\$2.98
Beds, white enamel (iron), full size; former price \$10.00, now.....	\$7.50
Beds, BRASS, full size; former price \$30.00, now.....	\$22.50
Beds, BRASS, full size; former price \$40.00, now.....	\$30.00
Beds, BRASS, full size; former price \$50.00, now.....	\$37.50
Chiffonniers, golden oak; former price \$7.00, now.....	\$4.95
Chiffonniers, golden oak; former price \$10.00, now.....	\$7.50
Chiffonniers, golden oak; former price \$15.00, now.....	\$11.25
Chiffonniers, golden oak; former price \$25.00, now.....	\$18.75

RUGS

Extra Quality Tapestry Rugs, 8x10.6; former price \$16.50, now.....	\$12.38
Extra Quality Tapestry Rugs, 9x12; former price \$18.00, now.....	\$13.50

Extra Quality Velvet Rugs, 9x12; former price \$30.00, now.....	\$22.50
Extra Quality Velvet Rugs, 9x12; former price \$30.00, now.....	\$22.50

Body Brussels, 9x12; former price \$35.00, now.....	\$26.25
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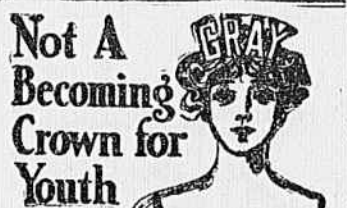
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You'll be surprised how quickly the gray hairs vanish and how young looking you can keep yourself by the regular use of HAY'S HAIR HEALTH. Get your money back from your druggist if it is not satisfied with it.

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Best Sellers in England.

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